E. Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC)

The foundation for any technology transfer effort, whether for transfer of technology into or out of the DoD or, indeed, for transfer between and among various DoD organizations, is a sound information collection and dissemination capability. DTIC provides that function for the DoD S&T community. Highlights of DTIC activities in FY96 are presented below.

Defense Technology Transfer Information System (DTTIS)

DTIC has developed the DTTIS in cooperation with the Services and Defense Agencies to facilitate the collection, analysis, and dissemination of project information about Technology Transfer activities, such as Cooperative Research and Development Agreements and Patent License Agreements. The database continues to grow and is being modified to meet evolving information needs.

Internet/World Wide Web (WWW)

The DoD has assumed a leadership position within the Federal Government in information delivery via the Internet. Using the power of the WWW to incorporate the entire range of Internet information transfer capabilities into a single package, DoD is creating a wide variety of products and services to deliver information to the public and also to facilitate management of agency programs and functions. These applications of the latest information technologies increase the public's awareness of the various technologies DoD is developing and enhance the transfer of information concerning these technologies. The DTIC has developed and manages over 80 WWW information resources used by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and its component organizations to provide information to both internal and external users. The Government Information Locator Service is fully integrated into DoD WWW services and provides indices, pointers, and searching capabilities into DoD technology assets.

One of the many DoD WWW implementations is TechTRANSIT, which provides single-entry electronic linkage to information on all DoD technology transfer activities. These programs include: the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR); Cooperative Research and Development Agreements; Dual-Use Programs; and DoD Information Analysis Centers. TechTRANSIT also contains information on partnering opportunities and success stories for spin-on and spin-off technology transfer and defense conversion with dual-use applications. In addition, links are provided to the technology transfer activities of other Federal organizations, as well as state and international organizations.

Registration for Access to DoD Technical Information

DTIC operates a registration system for access to Defense technical information. Through the registration system, DoD organizations and DoD contractors and potential contractors can access the DTIC databases to ascertain ongoing and

completed R&D relevant to their work and interests. This facilitates and increases awareness of technology that is relevant to both Defense and commercial applications. Of the 3,921 organizational registrations active in FY97, 1,885 were associated with private sector organizations. In addition, during the period that the DoD SBIR solicitations are active, DTIC registered an additional 935 small businesses to assist them in participating in this major Defense acquisition program.

DoD Technical Reports

DTIC is the central DoD repository for the collection and secondary dissemination of DoD technical reports. The reports are abstracted, indexed and cataloged, as part of DTIC's on-line searchable database. During FY96 the Defense industry conducted over 52,406 searches of DTIC databases and they received 223,657 output products from DTIC.

In addition, DoD pursues a policy of public release of Defense scientific and technical information whenever possible. This information is centrally collected, announced, and released for public purchase through the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) as part of their statutory mandate to supply Federal R&D information to the general public from the Federal Agencies. In FY97, 15,875 technical reports were provided by DTIC to NTIS for public release and purchase. DoD provides over 30 percent of the annual submissions to NTIS that document the results of both in-house and Government contract sponsored efforts. These documented, completed results of Defense R&D contribute to technology transfer by helping private sector organizations identify DoD work in their fields of interest.

Work Unit Information System (WUIS)

The DTIC operated WUIS database contains brief descriptions of ongoing Defense R&D efforts as well as the identity of the sponsoring and performing organizations, project duration, and level of resources invested in the effort. This information can provide the basis for identifying opportunities for collaboration between DoD organizations as well as between DoD organizations and the private sector for the purpose of technology transfer.

DoD Information Analysis Centers (DoD IACs)

The DoD IAC Program provides access via the World Wide Web (WWW) to 13 DTIC sponsored centers and one Army sponsored center for the analysis of scientific and technical information. Each IAC Home Page continues to experience a steadily increasing volume of inquiry traffic from the public sector. WWW access provides significant opportunity for technology transfer of publicly accessible defense technical information plus a channel for two-way electronic communication with technology experts.